

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ANTANA 01339 180552Z  
ACTION SCS-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 L-03 HA-05 H-01 /026 W  
-----066913 180556Z /21

R 171343Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 759

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANTANANARIVO 1339

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CARR (LAPPEMAN, EDMUND H.)  
SUBJ: LAPPEMAN

REF: ANT 1272

1. EMBASSY OFFICERS VISITED LAPPEMAN ON WEDNESDAY  
JULY 5 AND 12. HE CONTINUES TO BE IN GOOD HEALTH AND  
SPIRITS.

2. I WAS TOLD ON JULY 14 BY A LADY MAGISTRATE WHO  
WORKED FOR 14 YEARS AS "AVOCAT GENERAL" AT THE SUPREME  
COURT THAT A DEFENDANT CAN ABANDON AN APPEAL IN  
CASSATION BY SIMPLE LETTER TO THE COURT INFORMING IT  
OF THE INTENTION TO DESIST.

3. I CONTINUE TO GET MIXED SIGNALS REGARDING THE  
RISKS LAPPEMAN RUNS IF A NEW TRIAL IS ORDERED. THE  
ABOVE LADY MAGISTRATE AND ANOTHER, WHO STILL WORKS  
FOR THE COURT OF APPEALS OF ANTANANARIVO, BOTH DO NOT  
THINK THAT A NEW TRIAL WOULD PRODUCE SUCH A RESULT,  
ALTHOUGH ADMITTING THAT IT IS LEGALLY FEASIBLE FOR  
AN INCREASED SENTENCE TO BE PRONOUNCED. THE FIRST  
NAMED LADY SAID A NEW TRIAL WOULD START ON THE BASIS  
OF THE ORIGINAL CHARGES, THIS CONTRADICTING COLONEL  
RAKOTONIRINA (REFTEL). ON THE OTHER HAND A NOTED  
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PAGE 02 ANTANA 01339 180552Z

LOCAL LAWYER, MAITRE ROVONY, WHOM I CONSULTED INDIRECTLY  
THROUGH ONE OF HIS CLIENTS SAID THE THREE PRISONERS  
DEFINITELY RISK A LONG TERM AT HARD LABOR IF A NEW TRIAL IS  
HELD. ANOTHER PROMINENT FRENCH LAWYER DOUBTS THAT A HARSHER  
VERDICT WILL BE PRONOUNCED ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT IS AGAINST THE  
MENTALITY IN MADAGASCAR, WHERE "TIME IS A GREAT HEALER."

4. MAITRE SICARD MAY RETURN TO ANTANANARIVO AS EARLY  
AS JULY 20 IF HIS WIFE'S HEALTH PERMITS, OTHERWISE HE  
WILL COME BACK IN MID-AUGUST.BARRETT

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1978ANTANA01339  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION SCS  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 1992220  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LAPPEMAN  
**TAGS:** CARR, (LAPPEMAN, EDMUND H)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014